

**HISTORICAL  
DICTIONARY OF  
PRE-COLONIAL  
AFRICA**

**ROBERT O. COLLINS**



# Historical Dictionary of Pre-Colonial Africa

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## Appendix

### Pre-Colonial African Dynasties

The dates of the following dynasties are all in the Christian Era (C.E., formerly A.D.) unless indicated as B.C.E. (Before the Christian Era, formerly B.C.).

#### EGYPT

Abbasids	750–868
Assyrians	1070–500 B.C.E.
Ayyubids	1171–1259
Byzantines	293–634
Fatimids	969–1171
French under Napoleon	1798–1800
Greeks (Alexander)	332–30 B.C.E.
Greeks (Ptolemies)	305–30 B.C.E.
Hyksos	1786–1550 B.C.E.
Ikhshidids	935–969
Mamluks	1259–1517
Middle Kingdom	1963–1786 B.C.E.
Muhammad Ali's dynasty	1805–1952
New Kingdom	1550–1070 B.C.E.
Old Kingdom	2695–2160 B.C.E.
Ottomans	1517–1798.
Persians	500–332 B.C.E.
Ptolomies: <i>see also</i> Greeks	305–30 B.C.E.
Rashidun Caliphs	634–661
Romans	30 B.C.E. to 293 C.E.
Tulunids	868–905
Ummayyads	661–750



## NORTH AFRICA

Abbasids	750–800
Abd al-Wadids (Morocco)	1422–1428
Aghlabids (Tunisia)	800–909
Alawite (Morocco)	1671–present
Almohads (Morocco)	1140–1269
Almoravids (Morocco)	1056–1147
Byzantines	533–647
Carthaginians	814–202 B.C.E.
Fatimids	909–1064
Hafsids (Tunisia and Algeria)	1228–1574
Hammadids (Algeria)	1015–1152
Husainids (Tunisia)	1705–1957
Idrisids (Morocco)	789–926
Karamanlis (Qaramanli)	1711–1835
Marinids (Morocco)	1258–1465
Muradids (Tunisia)	1631–1702
Ottomans (Tunisia, Libya, Algeria)	1576–1882
Rashidun Caliphs	647–661
Romans	202 B.C.E. to 429 C.E.
Rustamids (Algeria)	777–909
Saadids (Morocco)	1511–1671
Umayyads	661–750
Vandals	429–533
Wattasids (Morocco)	1428–1549
Zirids (Tunisia)	973–1152
Ziyanids	1235–1545

## NUBIA AND THE SUDAN

Alwa	350–1504
Baguirmi	circa 1635–1897
Funj Sultanate	1504–1821
Keira, Darfur	1650–1916
Kush	590 B.C.E. to 350 C.E.
Makouria (Makuria)	350–1366
Tunjur	circa 1400–1580
Wadai	1611–1909

## ETHIOPIA

Aksum	circa 1–500
Mahzumi (Eastern Sawa)	circa 896–1285
Solomonid	circa 1270–1975
Zagwe	circa 137–1270

## EAST AFRICA

Backwezi of Kitara	1344 to circa 1600
Buganda	14th century to 1894
Busaidi (Zanzibar)	1840–1964

## WEST AFRICA

Adamawa (Nigeria)	1806–1897
Adanse (Akan)	circa 1500–1657
Akwamu (Akan)	circa 1500–1874
Allada (Adja)	circa 1600–1724
Asante (Akan)	1630–1896
Askiya (Songhai)	1492–1599
Benin	circa 1480–1748
Dahomey (Adja)	1670–1897
Damagaram (Hausa, Tuareg, Fulbe, Kanuri)	1731–1906; 1923–1950
Denkyira (Akan)	1657–1702
Denyanke (Futa Toro)	1490–1776
Diarra (Bambara)	1766–1862
Dosso (Djerma, Songhai)	1855–1938
Ghana	circa 4th century; 800–1076
Jaara (Upper Niger)	circa 1500–1900
Kaarta (Middle Niger; see also Massassi)	1663–1854
Keita (Mali)	1235–1492
Masina (Fulbe)	
Diallo	1400–1810
Bari	1810–1862
Tall	1862–1902
Mali: see Keita	



Massassi (Kaarta)	1663–1854
Mossi (Upper Volta)	15th century to 1896
Porto Novo (Akan)	1688–1913
Oyo	14th century to 1823
Quattara (Dyula on Mouhoun, Black Volta)	18th century to 1909
Saifuwa of Kanem-Bornu	1068–1846
Segu (Bambara, Niger valley)	
Coulibaly	1652–1757
Ton Djonm	1757–1766
Diarra	1766–1890
Serer (Senegambia)	circa 1500–1860s
Sokoto Caliphate (Fulbe, Northern Nigeria)	1804–1903
Soninke: <i>see</i> Ghana	
Sunni (Songhai, Middle Niger)	1335–1492
Soso (Soninke, Upper Niger)	circa 1200–1235
Takrur (Senegal)	circa 1–1100
Umarian (Tall, Futaanke)	1852–1893
Wolof (Senegal)	1100–1673
Za (Songhai)	1009–1324

### CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN AFRICA

Changamire Rozvi Empire	1684 to 18th century
The Kingdom of Kongo	circa 1400–1710
Luango (Angola)	circa 1580–1650
Lunda (Angola)	16th to 17th centuries
Munhumutapa (Zimbabwe)	11th to 15th centuries
Ndongo (Angola)	circa 1500–1683
Torwa (Zambezia)	1450–1700
Zulu (Natal)	1818–1887

## Bibliographies by Region

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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CEDAF	Centre d'Études et de Documentation Africaines
CRRDTO	Centre Régional de Recherche et de Documentation pour la Tradition Orale
CSCO	<i>Corpus Scriptorum Christianorum Orientalium</i>
EO	<i>Ethiopian Observer</i>
IFAN	Institut Français d'Afrique Noire
JA	<i>Journal Asiatique</i>
RIVSO	<i>Rivista Studie Orientali</i>
RRAL	<i>Rendiconti dei Accademia dei Lincei</i>
RS	<i>Revue Semitique</i>
RSE	<i>Rassegna di Studie Etiopici</i>
RSO	<i>Rassegna di Studi Orientale</i>
SNR	<i>Sudan Notes and Records</i>

## INTRODUCTION

Compiling a bibliography for a *Historical Dictionary of Pre-Colonial Africa* presented conundrums similar to those that confronted the selection of text entries. The first two questions are ideological: What is Africa? What is pre-colonial? These issues have been debated in the past and continue to be debated today without any resolution, which is no help for those who seek a selected but substantial bibliography of both. The decisions on what and what not to include are those of the author constrained by the size of a single volume. Africa is the continent. Pre-colonial is Africa before its partition at the end of the 19th century. There are, of course, innumerable variations, particularly in northern and southern Africa, where Arab and European inhabitants can be neither ignored nor excluded from history. Their presence was more intrusive than colonial. Their peregrinations invariably disconnected them from the metropolitan authority. Their purpose was to establish polities that embraced, as well as controlled, indigenous Africans. They were not like the European colonial authorities of the 19th and 20th centuries, for they are of Africa while the imperial rulers were only in Africa and consequently destined to be out of Africa.

The decision to embrace Africa as a continent created problems of